

Artists (T.H.)

Ray H. French
RETROSPECTIVE

RAY H. FRENCH RETROSPECTIVE
25 YEARS AT DEPAUW UNIVERSITY

November 29 - December 21, 1972



Art Center DePauw University Greencastle, Indiana



#5 Egret

Ray H. French has been exhibiting in national exhibitions since 1946 and has had 68 one-man exhibitions in the United States and Italy. He has exhibited his work in over 420 leading museums, galleries, and universities in the United States, Europe, Africa, and the Orient. His work has been represented in twelve traveling exhibitions throughout the world. French's engravings, metal relief etchings, and graphic constructions have won over 50 prizes and purchase awards.

French is a native of Terre Haute, Indiana, and has studied at John Herron Art School, Indiana State University, University of Colorado, Academia di Belle Arti (Florence, Italy) and the University of Iowa. He received the Bachelor of Fine Arts and the Master of Fine Arts degrees at the University of Iowa.

French was awarded an Eli Lilly Grant for an extensive tour in Europe in 1961. He received a Ford Foundation Grant in 1969 to develop a new medium in printmaking. He and his family lived in Florence, Italy, in 1963-64. French is Professor of Art at DePauw University where he is head of the art department and teaches printmaking and art history.



Photo by James Baugh

Brochure, "Ray French: 25 Years of Printmaking," Sheldon Swope Art Gallery, Terre Haute; Howard E. Wooden, Director; November 1-27, 1970:

"Viewed chronologically, they present the exciting opportunity to witness changes that reveal steady growth. At the same time, continuity and integrity of artistic objectives are readily discerned. For the connecting threads across successive phases of French's work to date are easily identified and traced -- his sophisticated sense of simplification, his rhythmically rich calligraphy, his interest in refinement and technical precision."

Brochure, "Graphic Constructions by Ray French," Sheldon Swope Art Gallery; Howard E. Wooden, Director; February 1-27, 1967:

"Ray French's Graphic Constructions add a new and exciting dimension to the art of the contemporary print. French has of course experimented in the past and has experienced an enviable degree of success in his undertakings. He was a pioneer in the evolution of metal relief etchings, and his sensitively intricate calligraphy finds perhaps its closest parallel in the complex interweavings of illuminated manuscripts from the Middle Ages. In his most recent work, French continues to use the same dynamic calligraphy and the same metal relief techniques. But now the total conception of the work of art has greatly expanded. French simply arranges a print, an embossed shield containing cut-out areas, and a mat of different levels with deep box-like frames. The final construction in depth achieves a special elegance and a new and different psychological impact."

The Chicago Sun, Frank Holland, Art Critic; June 1, 1947; "Iowa University Print Group," Chicago Art Institute:

"An outstanding print I particularly noted was Ray French's 'Anteater,' an engraving of a decorative moving line."

Carnegie Magazine, Critic Virginia Lewis, December 1949; "Fine Prints of 1949":

"Religious prints in the 15th Century were made to be sold to pilgrims at shrines. This purpose has been lost sight of today. But something of the same spiritual urge has been sustained, and religious prints produced as individual works of art have come into being. One thinks of Rembrandt's work especially. Here in this exhibition of 20th Century works are such moving examples as the color etching, and engraving 'Crucifixion' by Ray H. French."

Indianapolis Times, Henry Butler, April 27-May 22, 1953;" Herron Alumni Print Show":

"Three remarkable engravings by Professor Ray French of the DePauw University art faculty, 'Aardvark,' 'Walruses,' and 'Rhinoceros,' have a kind of whimsical literalism many observers will enjoy."

Arts (Digest), J. G.; February 15, 1954; "Young U. S. Printmakers":

"French's sweeping burin creates a charming intaglio animal series."

Louisville Courier-Journal; Justus and Senta Bier; April 1, 1956; "Art Center Annual Exhibition":

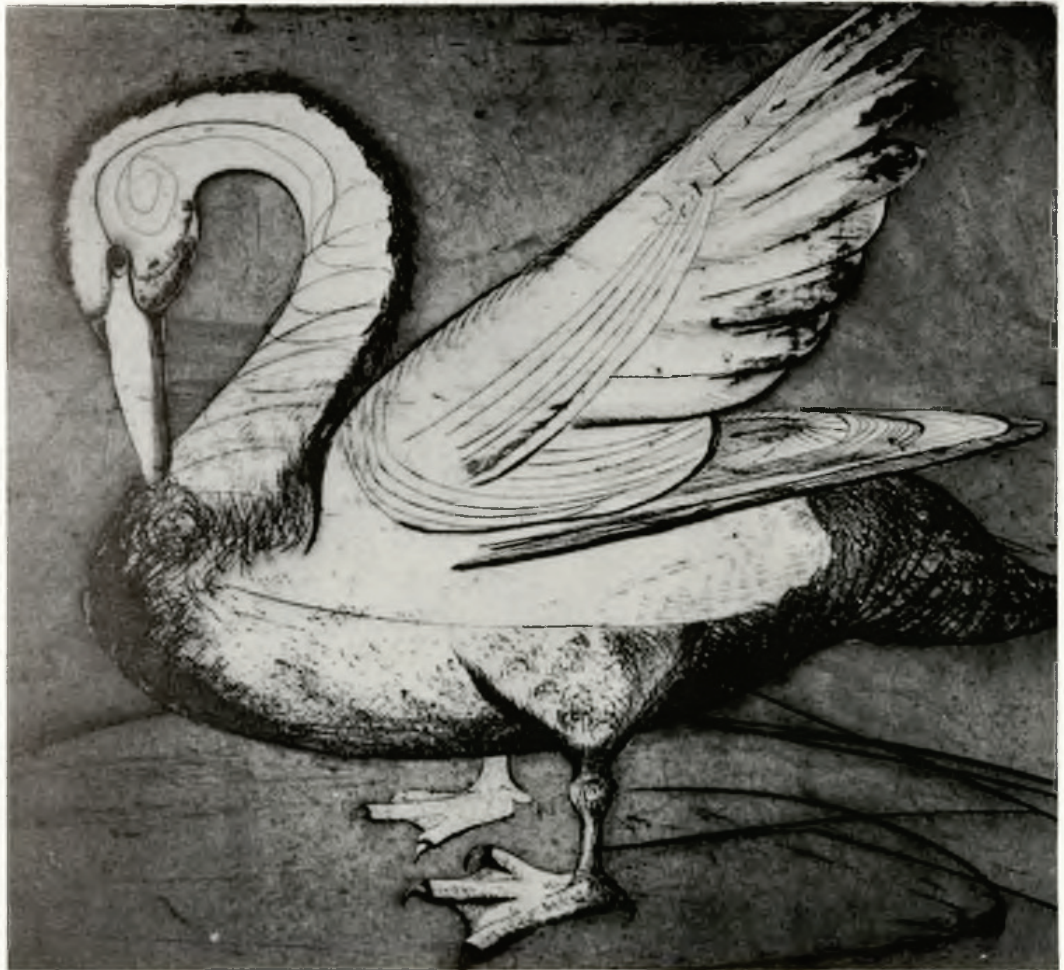
"The Arthur D. Allen Memorial Purchase Prize was handed to Ray H. French, who teaches at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana for his engraving, 'Walruses,' showing skillful and economic use of line."

Indianapolis Star, Corbin Patrick; May 5, 1958; "51st Annual Indiana Artist Exhibition":

"The versatile Ray H. French is represented by excellent work in both painting and sculpture divisions."

Chicago Tribune, Edith Weigle; May 25, 1959; "One-Man Exhibition":

"Another excellent print exhibition is that of Ray H. French at Print Exhibitions Gallery."



14 The Swan

Roanoke Times, Priscilla Young; October 25, 1959; "Ray H. French One - Man Exhibit at Hollins College":

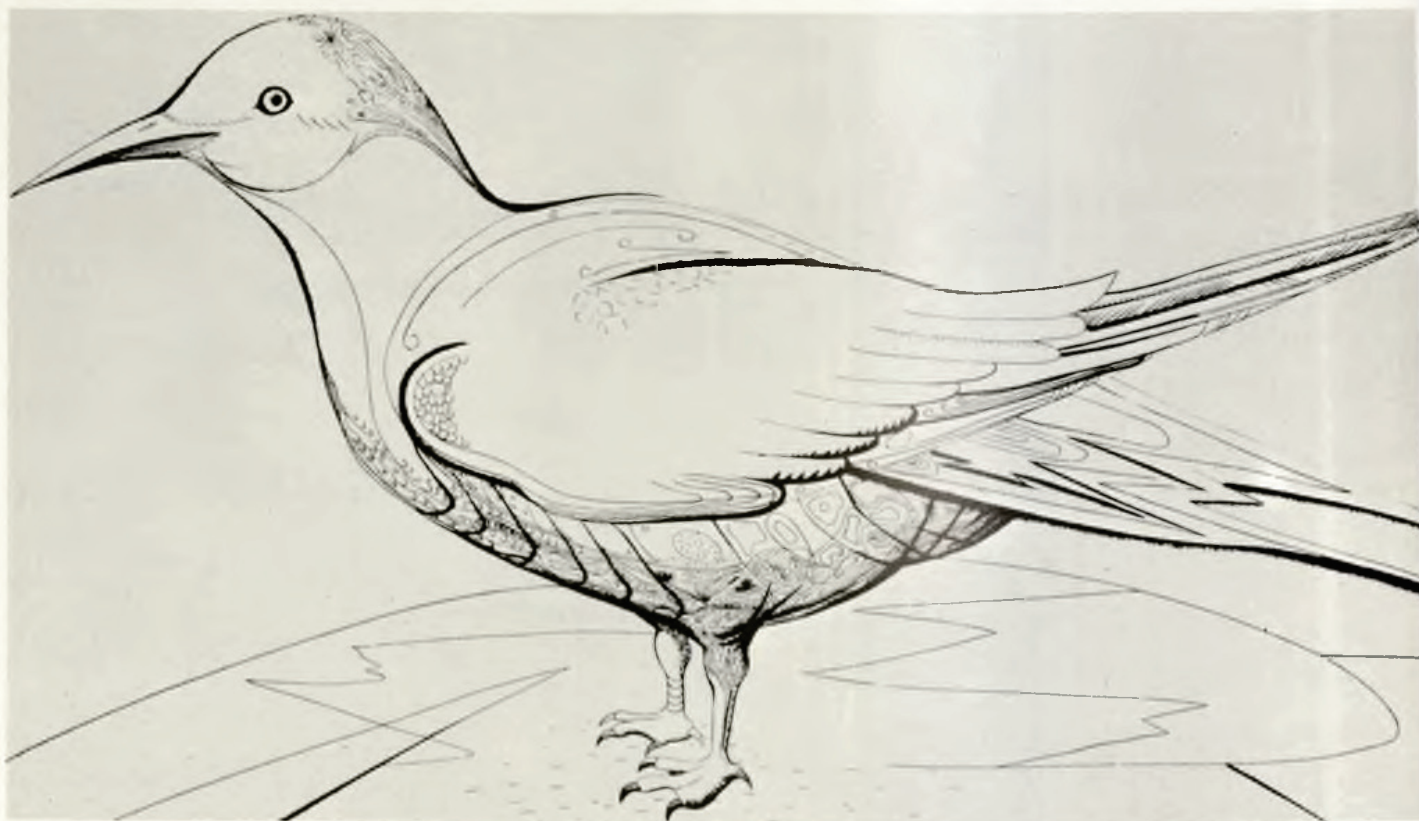
"Grace, delicacy, imaginative patterned detail are the ingredients of his (French's) style. He has such control of his medium that the viewer has to force himself to remember the artist was scratching and gouging in copper as he worked - not lightly touching the paper with a fine flexible brush. You have never seen such poetic birds as his large 'Snowy Egret,' 'Egret,' and 'Louisiana Heron.' 'Seagulls,' 'Ducks,' and 'Swan' fall into this category."

Louisville Courier-Journal, Senta Bier; Sunday, December 6, 1959; "Ray H. French One-Man Exhibit at Bellarmine College":

"One could call Ray H. French a modern Audubon, judging from his many bird engravings exhibited in a show of about 20 prints at Bellarmine College. The birds are done in big sweeping lines, while some of the animals, as the 'Anteater,' remind one of 17th Century drawings."

New York Times, Stuart Preston; August 3, 1962; "American Prints - The Figure" at Associated American Artists:

"But gentleness and humor break in as well, notably in work by Ponce de Leon, Harold Altman, and Ray French who must be an excellent tattooist as well as being a delightful intaglio printmaker."



11 The Gull

Durham Morning Herald, Ola Maie Foushee; Group Show, Painting Upstairs Gallery, Chapel Hill N.C.:

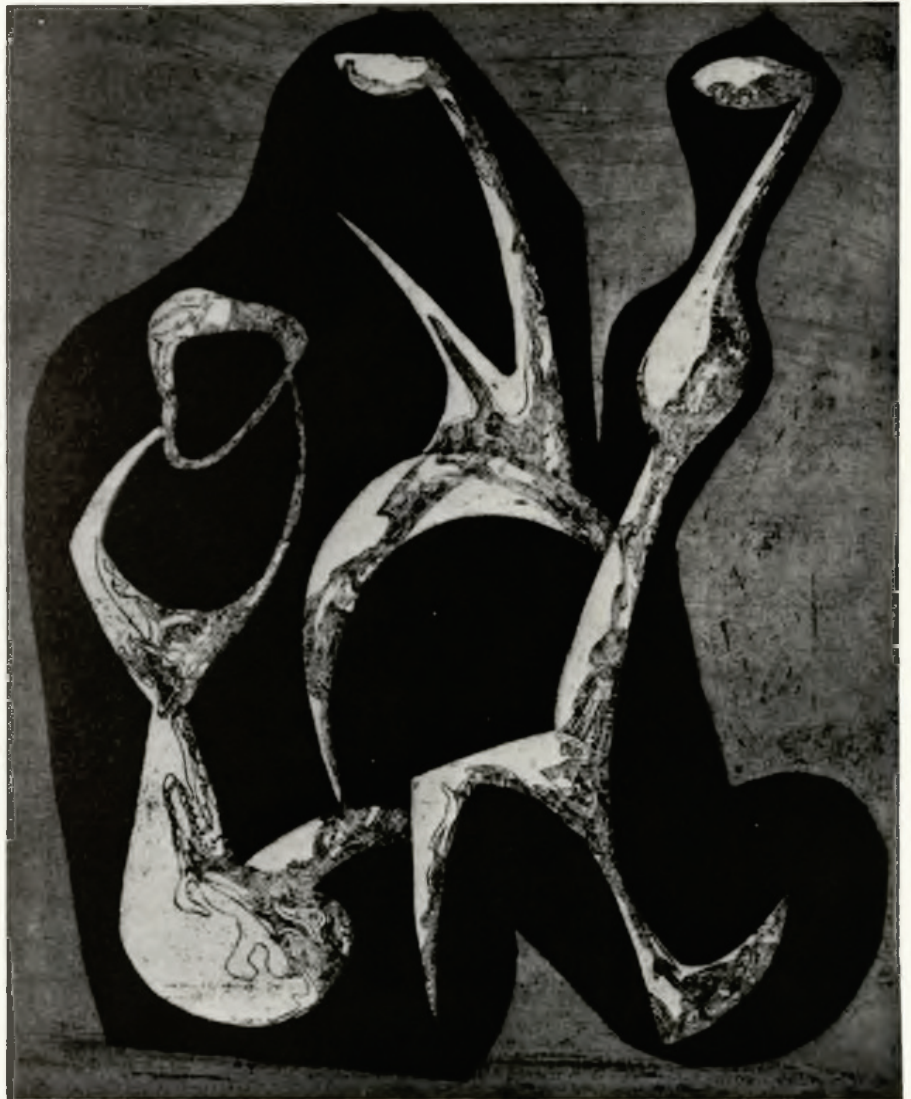
"French, a leader in the graphic field, pioneered in metal relief printing."

Louisville Courier-Journal, Susan Clarke; August 2, 1963; One-Man Show and Print Workshop, Louisville Art Association:

"Ray French Makes An Imprint Here."

Terre Haute Tribune-Star, Eileen Jensen; November 1, 1970:

"Ray French: Twenty-five Years of Printmaking" is an exhibition mounted by gallery director, Howard E. Wooden, as part of the Swope Gallery's continuing interest in the work of contemporary American artists. This retrospective show reveals the threads of consistency running through an artist's work. At the same time, it demonstrates the way in which a talent changes as it matures.



15 Enchantment

MUSEUM COLLECTIONS:

Museum of Modern Art
Library of Congress
Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Bibliotique Nationale, Paris
Brooklyn Museum
Philadelphia Art Museum
Pasadena Museum
Brooks Memorial Museum
Denver Art Museum
Evansville Museum
Sheldon Swope Art Gallery
New York Public Library
Free Library of Philadelphia
Boston Public Library
Dayton Traveling Museum
Peabody Museum
South Bend Art Association
Rockford Art Association
Louisville Art Center Association
Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, Nebraska
Wayne Art Foundation, Nebraska

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE COLLECTIONS:

University of Iowa
University of Louisville
University of Wisconsin
MacMurray College
Wichita State University
Hastings College
University of Mississippi
Oregon State College
Goshen College
University of Florida
DePauw University
Hollins College
Eisenhower College
Denison University
Erskine College
Indiana University Art Museum
Wabash College
Stephens College
St. Mary's-of-the-Woods College
Columbia University
St. Benedict College, Atchison, Kansas

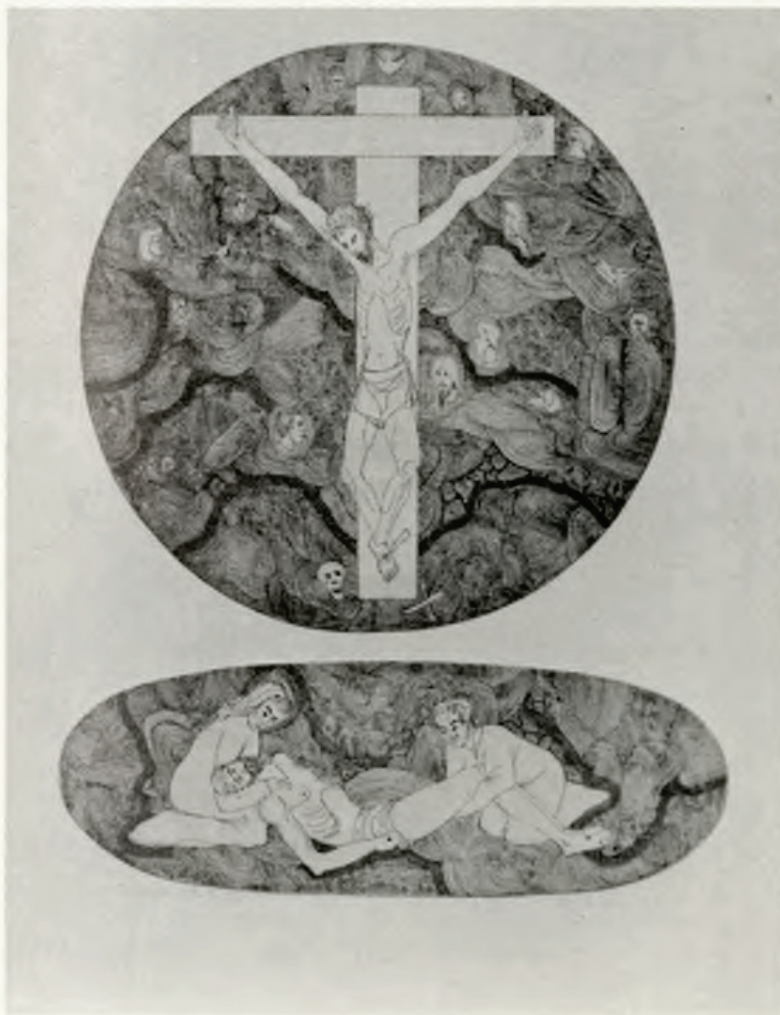
CORPORATION COLLECTIONS:

L. S. Ayres Collection
R. C. A. Collection
Standard Life Insurance Collection

Acme Corporation Collection
Greencastle Federal Savings and Loan Association

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS:

Mr. John D. Walker, Washington, D.C.
Mr. Lester Cooke, Washington, D.C.
Mr. John McKendry, New York City
Dr. Erwin R. Biel, New Brunswick, New Jersey
Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Taggart, Indianapolis
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Wooden, Terre Haute
Dr. and Mrs. Alan Rankin, Terre Haute
Dr. Alberto Caravelli, Bologna, Italy
Sig. Corradini, Florence, Italy
Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg, Terre Haute
Mrs. Otto Spaeth, New York City
Mrs. Edna Tacon Arnold, New York City
Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Buck, Indianapolis
Dr. and Mrs. J. Stanley Battersby, Indianapolis
Numerous private collections in Greencastle and Indiana and the United States.



33 Crucifixion & Pieta

WORK AVAILABLE AT:

Weintraub Gallery, New York City
Galleria Schneider, Rome
Roten Galleries, Baltimore
Art Louie Gallery, Seattle
Etchings International, New York City
Indianapolis Museum Craft Shop
DeCinque Graphics, Florida
Interiors Inc., Indianapolis
L. S. Ayres Gallery, Indianapolis
Town Gallery, Munster, Indiana

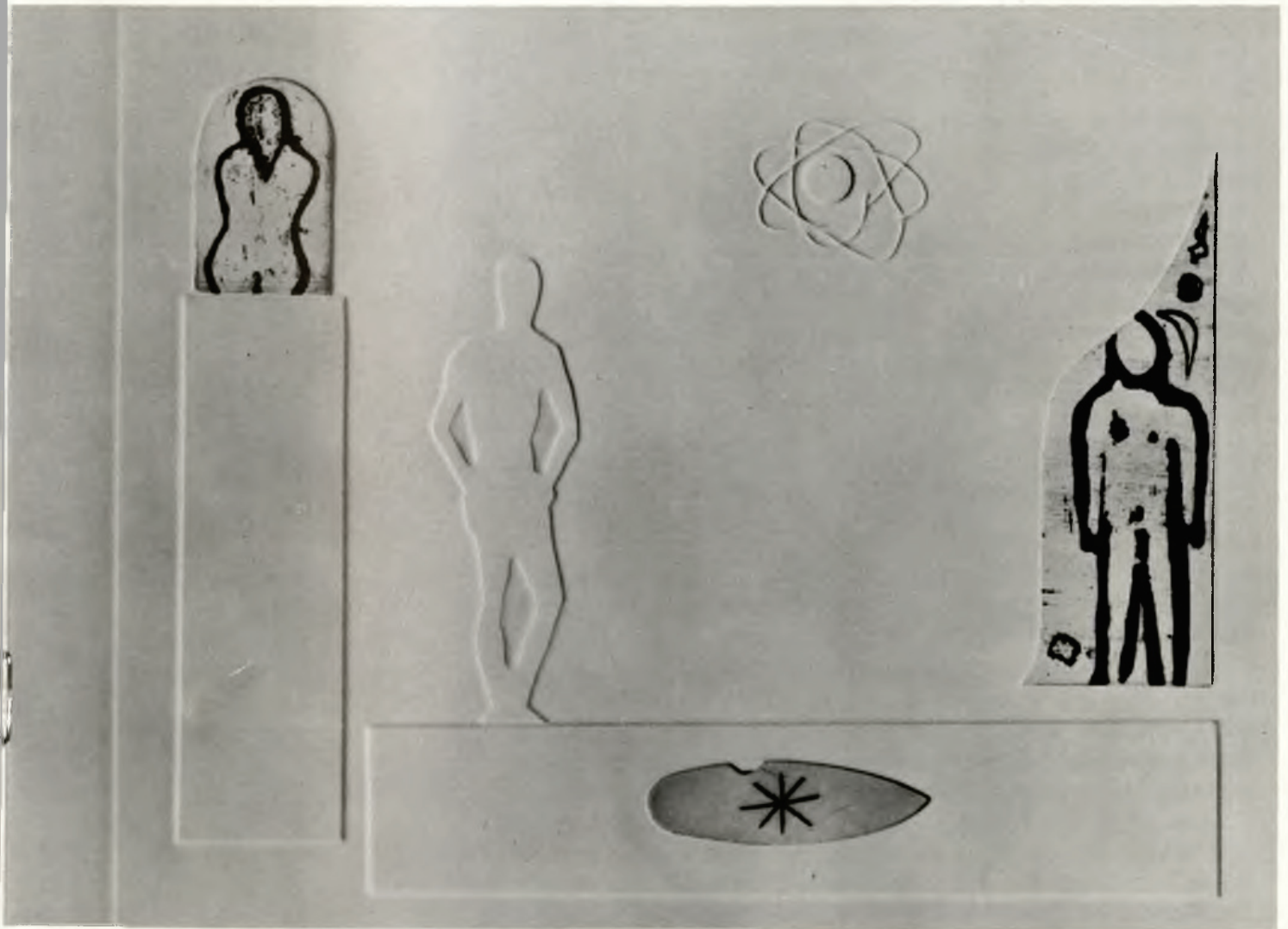
EXHIBITIONS:

Library of Congress
Museum of Modern Art
Pennsylvania Academy
Brooklyn Museum
Chicago Art Institute
National Academy
Carnegie Institute
Seattle Art Museum
Indianapolis Museum of Art
Boston Museum of Fine Arts
Cincinnati Art Museum
Smithsonian Institution
Dallas Museum of Contemporary Art
U. S. National Museum
Baltimore Museum
J. B. Speed Museum
Kansas City Art Institute
San Francisco Museum
National Gallery of Canada
Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Lawrence Adler Galleries, Johannesburg, S. Africa
Portland Museum of Art
Centre Culturel Americain, Paris
Riverside Museum, New York City
Wadsworth Atheneum and many other museums, colleges, and universities.

TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS:

- 1947-48 - 'Things Around the House,' lithograph. American Federation of Art selection from the "First National Print Annual Exhibition" from the Brooklyn Museum; toured U.S.
- 1949-54 - "A New Direction in Intaglio, the Work of Lasansky and His Students." Walker Art Center. Duplicate shows traveled U.S. and Canada. Full-page reproduction of 'Anteater' in catalogue.
- 1950-54 - "Museum Menagerie" circulated by the Museum of Modern Art. 'Walruses'

- 1952-Society of American Graphic Artists. 'Rhinoceros' selected as one of 80 prints for 1952.
- 1953-55 - American Federation of Art, 'Walruses, selected from "7th National Print Annual Exhibition", Brooklyn Museum.
- 1954-58 - "Young American Printmakers," Museum of Modern Art. 'Walruses.' Show traveled U. S. and Norway.
- 1957-58 - "IV Biennale di Pittura Americana," Bordighera, Italy, 'The Gull' and 'Walruses' toured Eurpoe and South Africa. 'Walruses' full-page reproduction in catalogue.
- 1960-62 - American Federation of Arts. 'Enchantment' selected from "12th National Annual Print Exhibition," Brooklyn Museum.
- 1961-62 - "Ray H. French One-Man Exhibition." Circulated by the Kansas Federation of Art.
- 1963-64 - "American Printmakers Exhibition," assembled by U.S. Department of State to tour Japan. 'Red Squares'
- 1966 - Society of American Graphic Artists. 'Sunecheia' toured Japan.
- 1968-69 - "10th Annual Exhibition of Drawings and Prints by Midwest Artists," circulated by Kansas State Federation of Art. 'Dance of Life' and 'Sun Burst'



1947

1. *Anteater, 10-13/16 x 13-7/8", engraving

1948

2. Crucifixion, 16 x 15-1/2", color intaglio
Loaned by the Reverend and Mrs. Allan Harlan

1949

3. Porcupine, 9-11/16 x 13-1/2", engraving
4. Rhinoceros, 9-3/4 x 14-5/8", engraving

1950

5. *Egret, 19-3/16 x 10-3/4", engraving

1951

6. Aardvark, 8-1/8 x 14-11/16", engraving

1952

7. *Walruses, 8-1/17 x 15-7/8", engraving

1953

8. *Louisiana Heron, 19-3/16 x 10-13/16", engraving

1954

9. *Snowy Egret, 19-1/2 x 10-13/16", engraving

1955

10. Ducks, 11 x 19-1/2", engraving
11. *The Gull, 10-7/8 x 19-1/2", engraving
12. Beaver, 12-3/4 x 11", engraving

1957

13. Elephant, 16-7/8 x 9-7/8", engraving
14. *Swan, 17-5/16 x 18-5/16", intaglio

1958

15. Patriarch, 9-3/4 x 19-1/2", engraving
16. Crucifixion, 17-3/4 x 12", engraving
17. Entombment, 17-3/4 x 12", engraving

1959

18. *Enchantment, 20 x 16", color intaglio

1960

19. Jedermann, 16 x 20", color intaglio relief
20. Growth, 20 x 16", intaglio relief
21. Intrigue, 20 x 16", color intaglio
22. Space Cage, 20 x 16", metal relief etching
23. *Phantom, 16 x 20", metal relief etching

1961

24. Flower, 17-1/2 x 12", metal relief etching
25. Vibrations, 19-7/8 x 15-3/4", metal relief etching
26. Starling, 19-5/8 x 25-7/8", metal relief etching
27. Temptation, 16 x 20", color metal relief etching

1962

28. Fantasy of Life, 18 x 17-1/4", etching
29. Lovers, 15-7/8 x 15-7/8", metal relief etching
30. Fragment, 25-3/4 x 13-3/8", etching relief
31. Jester II, 20 x 16", metal relief etching
32. Milano Cathedral, 20 x 16", color metal relief etching
33. *Crucifixion and Pieta, 23 x 17-7/8", etching
34. Temple of Poseidon, 16 x 20", metal relief etching

1963

- 35. Adam and Eve, 25-3/4 x 19-7/8", etching relief
- 36. *Ghost of Night, 16-1/2 x 9-1/4", etching
- 37. Fire Dance, 15-1/2 x 11-3/4", color intaglio
- 38. Spring Growth, 9-3/4 x 7-3/4", color intaglio
- 39. Strange Growth, 9-3/4 x 7-3/4", intaglio
- 40. Duomo, Florence, 14-1/2 x 15-1/2", woodcut collage

1964

- 41. Etruscan Symbols, 20 x 16", color metal relief etching

1965

- 42. Jester III, 20 x 16", metal relief etching

1966

- 43. Rhythmos, 20 x 16", intaglio relief
- 44. *Gignesthai, 20 x 16", intaglio relief
- 45. Zinnia, 27-1/2 x 19-7/8", graphic construction
- 46. Daphnis and Chloe by the Lake, 28 x 19-1/2", graphic construction
- 47. Aphrodite, 25-3/4 x 17-5/8", graphic construction
- 48. Sunecheia, 20 x 16", intaglio relief
- 49. Sun Burst, 27-7/8 x 20", graphic construction
- 50. Moon Rays, 27-3/4 x 20", graphic construction
- 51. *Dance of Life, 19-5/8 x 28", graphic construction
- 52. *The Chase, 27-3/4 x 20", graphic construction
- 53. Dahlia, 27-7/8 x 19-7/8", graphic construction
- 54. Belli Perenni, 19-7/8 x 27-7/8", graphic construction

1967.

- 55. *Baigneurs, 20 x 27-3/4", graphic construction
- 56. Baigneuses, 20 x 27-3/4", graphic construction
- 57. Red Bathers, 27-1/2 x 19-1/2", graphic construction

1968

- 58. Daisy, 7 x 4-7/8", graphic construction
- 59. Sweet William, 7 x 4-7/8", graphic construction
- 60. Star Flower, 7 x 4-7/8", graphic construction
- 61. Dahlia II, 7 x 4-7/8", graphic construction

1969

- 62. Kirkinos, 13 x 13-1/4", graphic construction
- 63. Oktagonos, 21-1/4 x 21-1/4", graphic construction
- 64. Red Dahlia, 18 x 6-7/8", graphic construction

1970

- 65. River God, 28 x 19-1/4", graphic construction
- 66. Three Graces, 28 x 19-1/4", graphic construction
- 67. Scorpio, 15-3/4 x 11-3/16", graphic construction
- 68. George Washington, 11 x 11", graphic construction
- 69. *Sun Shines on All, 11-1/8 x 19-1/2", graphic construction
- 70. Optical Steps, 28 x 20", graphic construction
- 71. Optical Diamonds, 11-3/16 x 19-3/4", graphic construction
- 72. Stripes and Squares, 19-3/4 x 11-3/16", graphic construction
- 73. Circles and Squares, 20 x 11-3/16", graphic construction
- 74. Peace, 11-3/16 x 19-3/4", graphic construction
- 75. Yellow and Orange, 11-3/16 x 19-3/4", graphic construction
- 76. Black and Gold, 11-3/16 x 19-3/4", graphic construction

1971

77. Crucifixion, 20 x 11-5/8", graphic construction

78. Variations, 11-1/4 x 20", graphic construction

1972

79. Temple of Romulus, 19-5/8 x 11-1/4", graphic construction

80. *Basilica of Constantine, 19-5/8 x 11-1/4", graphic construction

'Cathedral,' oil, loaned by Mrs. Ray H. French

'Premordial Earth,' oil, loaned by Mrs. Ray H. French

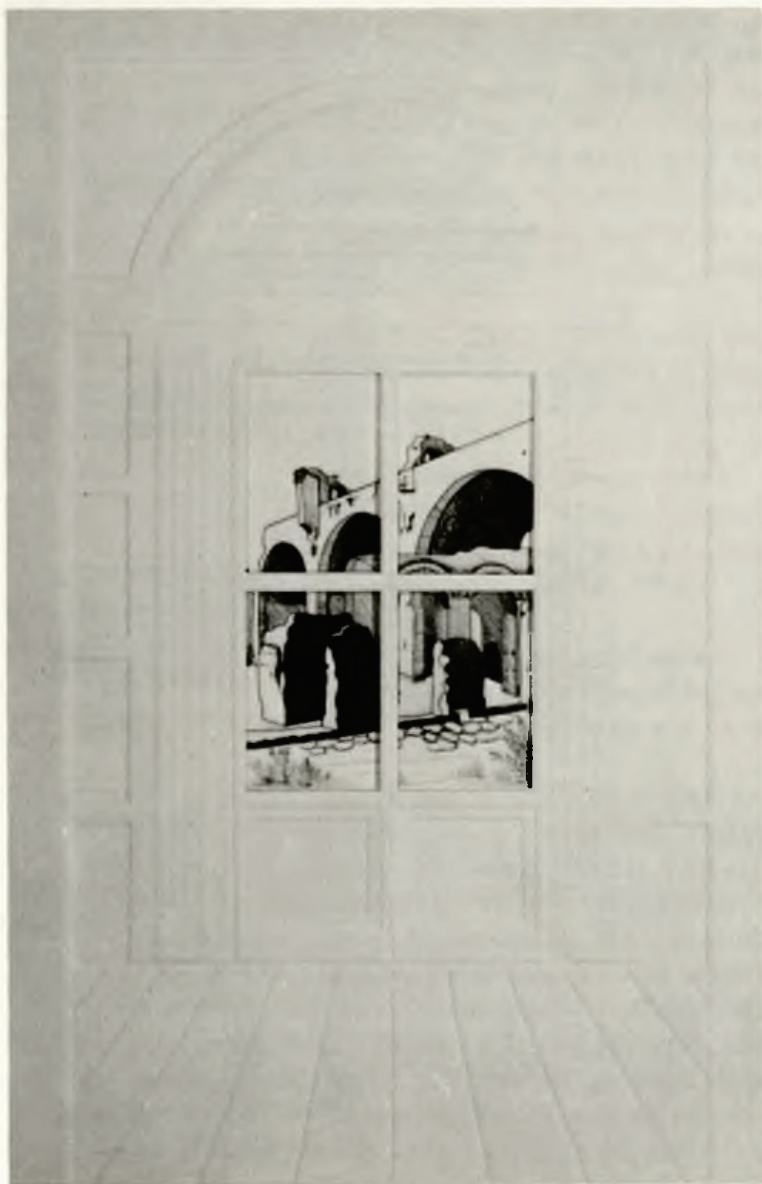
'Journey,' oil, loaned by Thomas R. French

'Hawk Woman,' aluminum sculpture, loaned by Dr. and Mrs. C. Hal Albro, Jr.

'Cathedral,' brass sculpture

'Soaring,' brass sculpture

*denotes photographic reproduction

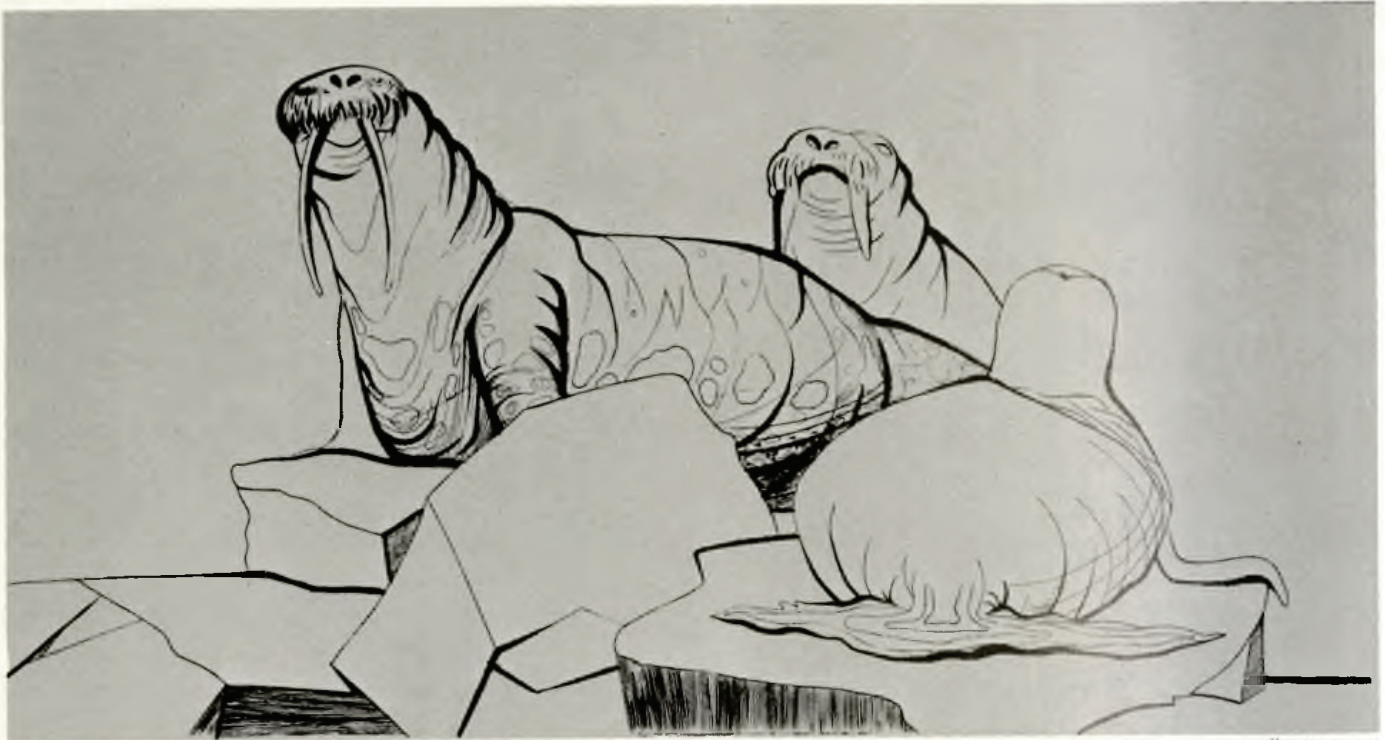


80 Basilica of Constantine

#9 Snowy Egret



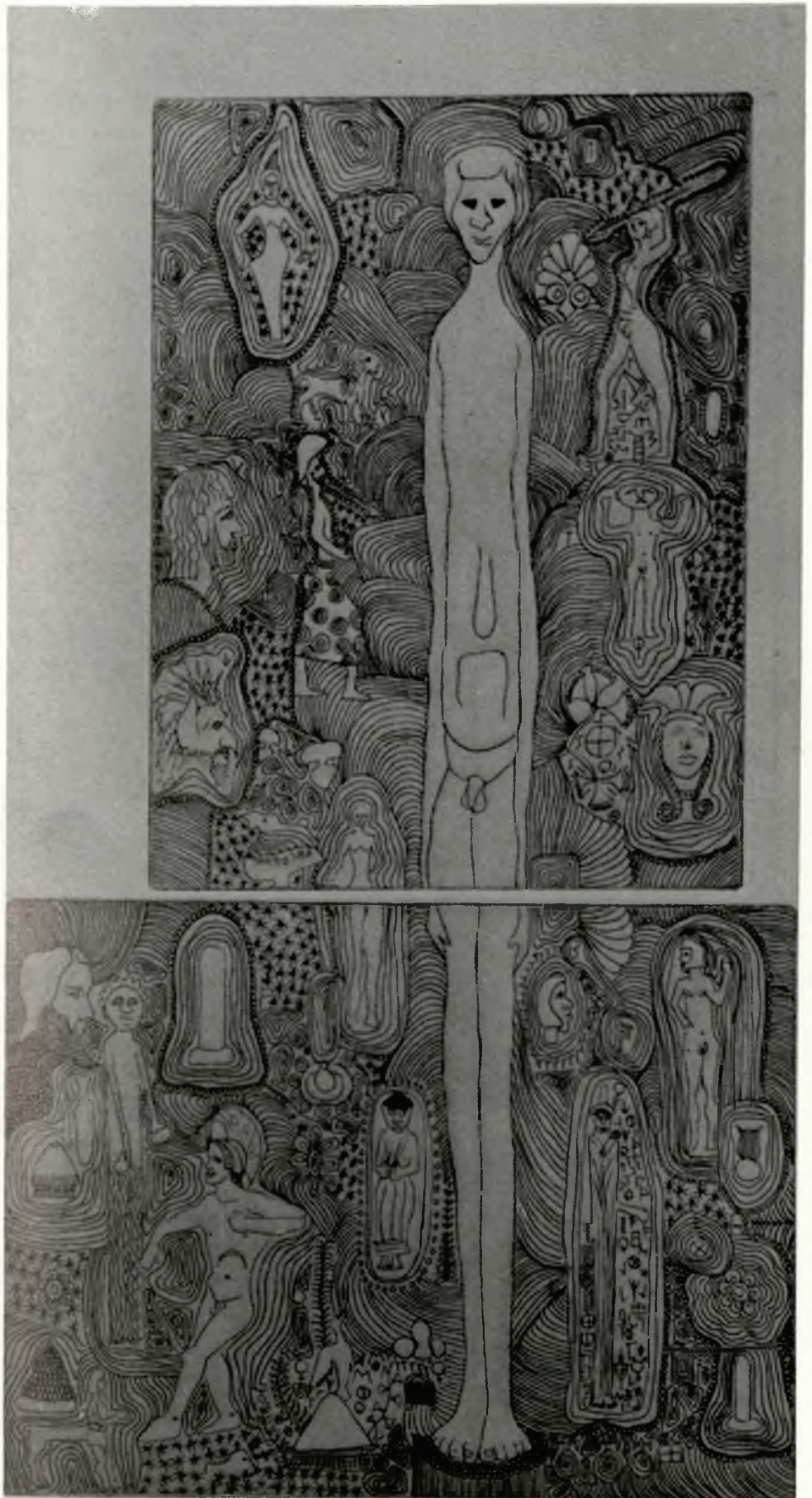
#8 Louisiana Heron



#7 Walruses



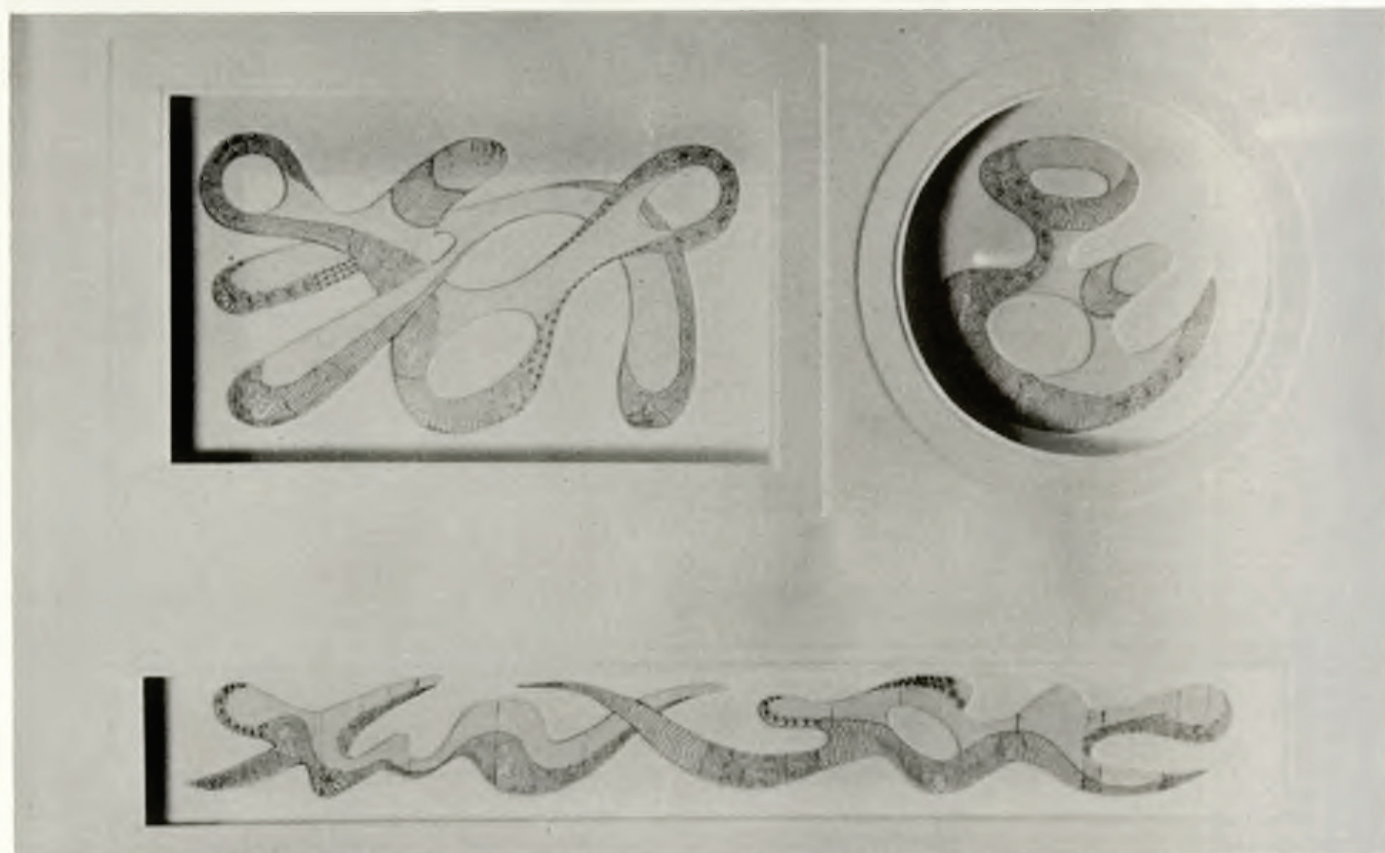
#1 Anteater



#36 Ghost of Night



#55 Baigneurs



#51 Dance of Life

